

MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
WRITTEN SUMMARY
Monday, February 17, 2021

[\(HYPERLINK TO AUDIO RECORDING OF MEETING – part 1\)](#)

The Planning Commission held a meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 1:30 p.m., remote and at Mission Memorial Conference Room, 550 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii. Vice Chair Lee presided.

Pursuant to HRS 92-3.5 and Proclamations issued by Governor David Ige relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Commission members may be participating in the meeting by interactive technology from remote locations.

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| COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: | Brian Lee, Vice Chair Steve S. C. Lim [remote] Ken K. Hayashida [remote] Gifford K. F. Chang Aki Marceau [remote] Ryan Kamo |
| COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: | Arthur B. Tolentino [remote] [joined in at 1:35 p.m.] 9 th Commissioner [vacant] |
| DEPUTY CORPORATION COUNSEL: | Mele Coleman (Advisory to the Commission) [remote] |
| COMMISSION STAFF: | Gloria Takara Secretary-Hearings Reporter |
| DIT STAFF: | Gregory Cieless, WebEx Management |
| DPP REPRESENTATIVES: | Katia Balassiano, Land Use Permits Division Chief Eugene Takahashi, Deputy Director |

[00:01]

I. CALL TO ORDER [bangs gavel]

[00:26]

II. ROLL CALL

[01:28]

I. FOR ACTION

Adoption of Findings of Facts, Conclusions and Law, Decision and Order, Special Use Permit Petition (SUP) No. 2020/SUP-1, Olomana School/Olomana Youth Center

[02:31] No discussion

[03:04]

[It was moved by Lim and seconded by Chang that the adoption of Findings of Facts, Conclusions and Law, Decision and Order, Special Use Permit Petition (SUP) No. 2020/SUP-1, Olomana School/Olomana Youth Center be approved. Motion was carried, 6:0:1; Commissioner Tolentino not present.]

[03:07]

II. DISCUSSION

The Planning Commission requested that the Department of Planning and Permitting propose aligning Honolulu with the other counties on processing of Special Management Area (SMA) Major Use Permits for final action by the Honolulu Planning Commission, instead of by the City Council.

Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH), Chapter 25, Article 2, Special Management Area, Section 25-1.3 Definitions, provides that "Council" means the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu, which shall act as the "authority" under HRS Chapter 205A. ROH Chapter 25, Article 5 states that the City Council shall act on SMA Major Use Permits under HRS Chapter 205A. The proposed ROH amendments would substitute the Planning Commission as the "authority".

[04:53]

Executive Session

To consult with Corporation counsel on questions and issues pertaining to the commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, in accordance with Planning Commission Rule 2-18(c) and HRS 92-5(a)(4).

[At 1:35 p.m., Commissioner Tolentino joined the meeting and convened into executive session]

[04:56]

(1:35 p.m. – 1:54 p.m.) [Executive Session]

[It was moved by Hayashida and seconded by Chang that the Commission recess from regular session and enter into executive session. Motion was carried, 6:0:1; Commissioner Tolentino was not present. Whereupon, the Commissioners and Counsel Coleman remained in the conference room and those not participating in the executive session exited the hearings room. Also those who joined the meeting remotely via WebEx were moved to the lobby and locked by DIT personnel Greg Cieless.]

[SEE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES]

[There being no further business in executive session, the Commission adjourned from executive session held in the conference room of the Mission Memorial Building and those not participating in the executive session re-entered back into the conference room and also those participating via the WebEx were unlocked and resumed proceedings in regular session.]

[\(HYPERLINK TO AUDIO RECORDING OF MEETING – part 2\)](#)

[00:01]

III. DISCUSSION (Cont'd)

[00:44]

Katia Balassiano, DPP, Land Use Permits Division Chief

[06:38]

Questioning by Commissioner Hayashida

[06:38]

Questioning by Commissioner Lim

[09:37]

Eugene Takahashi, DPP, Deputy Director

[10:17]

Questioning by Commissioner Marceau

[12:16]

Questioning by Commissioner Chang

[13:56]

Questioning by Commissioner Lim

[14:10]

Katia Balassiano, DPP, Land Use Permits Division Chief

[15:58]

Comments by Commissioner Lim

[16:58]

Deputy Corporation Counsel Mele Coleman

[18:09]

Comments by Commissioner Lim

[19:01] No discussions

[20:03]

[It was moved by Tolentino and seconded by Lim that the public hearing portion of the discussion be closed. Motion was unanimously carried, 7:0.]

[20:05] No discussions

[20:10]

[It was moved by Lim and seconded by Chang that the discussion item be deferred for further consultation with DPP staff and request that DPP get back to the Planning Commission with its position on the proposal. Motion was unanimously carried, 7:0.]

[21:05]

IV. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Pursuant to the Rules of the Planning Commission, Subchapter 2,
Section 2-6(b), Officers

[21:53]

[It was moved by Chang and seconded by Tolentino that Mr. Brian Lee be elected Chairperson for 2021. Motion was unanimously carried, 7:0; Commissioner Lee accepted with reservations.]

[26:23]

[It was moved by Chang and seconded by Kamo that Mr. Ken Hayashida be elected Vice Chairperson for 2021. Motion was unanimously carried, 7:0.]

[26:25] No discussions

[27:47]

V. ADJOURNMENT

[27:51]

[It was moved by Tolentino and seconded by Chang that the February 17, 2021 Planning Commission meeting be adjourned. Motion was unanimously carried, 7:0.]

There being no further business before the Planning Commission, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Lee at approximately 2:22 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct summary of the proceedings, prepared to the best of my ability, of the meeting held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

Gloria Takara
Secretary-Hearings Reporter
Planning Commission

Adopted on March 17, 2021